(d) what is the total additional capacity proposed to be created during Ninth Plan;

(e) whether it is a fact that the investment by private investors in power sector was not upto the satisfaction; and

(f) if so, the reasons therefor and how Government plans to overcome this problem?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The various power regions of the country are to be inter-connected in order to form a National Grid. A 500 MW HVDC back to back link at Vindhyachal already exists connecting the Northern and Western regions. A 1000 MW HVDC back to back link at Chandrapur connecting Western and Southern regions has been established. A 500 MW HVDC back to back project at Vizag connecting the Southern and Eastern regions is also under execution. A 400 KV D/C line between Bongaigaon and Malda is also being executed which would connect the Eastern and North Eastern regions. A 500 MW HVDC back to back project at Sasaram has been planned which would connect the Eastern and Northern regions. With this the framework of the National Grid would be completed.

(c) and (d) As against the target of 30537.7 MW fixed for the 8th Plan the capacity addition achieved was 16422.6 MW. The 9th Five Year Plan for the Power sector is still under finalisation by the Planning Commission.

(e) and (f) The reasons for a large number of sanctioned projects failing to come up is on account of the private promoters not being able to tie up various inputs/linkages and achieve financial closure. The Government has been monitoring the progress of the private power projects from time to time through periodical meetings with the private promoters, concerned State Governments/Electricity Boards and concerned Ministries/Departments under the Government of India and providing assistance to them in obtaining necessary clearances/inputs.

Import of Power from Pakistan

1349. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD
DR. MOHAN BABU:
DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India propose to import power from Pakistan;

(b) if so, the negotiations made and quantum to be imported; and

(c) when the supply is expected to start and the areas it will serve?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (c) A proposal for the sale of power from Pakistan to India was received from Indian Embassy, Washington. The proposal is under preliminary stage of assessment and scrutiny. On the basis of detailed consultation a study would have to be commissioned to establish the technical, financial and economic viability of the investments required having regard to likely quantum of power to be transferred.

Ninth Plan Projections in Power

1350. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Planning Commission has finalised the Ninth Plan projections as